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## Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JAMES LANKFORD, a Senator from the State of Oklahoma.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Almighty God, Ruler of all nations, show our lawmakers clearly what their duty is and strengthen them to be faithful in doing it. May they do even the small duties in a way that will glorify You, transforming common tasks into acts of worship. May they fear only to be disloyal to the highest and best they know, never betraying those who trust them. Help them to meet today's joys with gratitude, its difficulties with fortitude, and its duties with fidelity. Bring them to this evening unashamed and with peaceful hearts.

We pray in Your sacred Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, September 12, 2016.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JAMES LANKFORD, a

Senator from the State of Oklahoma, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ORRIN G. HATCH,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. LANKFORD thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

### LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to H.R. 5325.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 516, H.R. 5325, a bill making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes.

### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 516, H.R. 5325, an act making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes.

Mitch McConnell, John Cornyn, Orrin G. Hatch, Shelley Moore Capito, Thom Tillis, Mike Rounds, Marco Rubio, Cory Gardner, Pat Roberts, Roy Blunt, John Barrasso, Roger F. Wicker, Steve Daines, Daniel Coats, John Thune, Thad Cochran, Susan M. Collins.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum

call with respect to the cloture motion be waived.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

### CONTINUING RESOLUTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, Members on both sides have been working toward an agreement to responsibly fund the government. We have made a lot of important progress already. I expect to move forward this week on a continuing resolution through December 9 at last year's enacted levels that includes funds for Zika control and our veterans. Talks are continuing and leaders from both parties will meet later this afternoon at the White House to discuss the progress and the path forward.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The minority leader is recognized.

### CONTINUING RESOLUTION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, my staff has been working diligently to work with the majority to come up with a way to go forward on spending. We especially need to take care of that, but we also need to address Zika funding. I am not going to lay down any markers here today because we are still trying to work something out, but I do want to say this. Republicans need to get away from their vendetta against Planned Parenthood. We are not going to play any funny games and try to find the money someplace else. Planned Parenthood should not be part of Zika funding.

More than 2 million women received care at Planned Parenthood clinics around the country last year. They didn't go there for abortions. They went there because they needed help with their health care. The women needed that, and they still need it. They need it more than ever now with this scourge that is sweeping our country, which is Zika. I just want to make sure that everyone understands that we

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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